

NEWS RELEASE

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Argentine Man Charged with Distribution of Cocaine

Springfield, IL- The United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, Rodger A. Heaton, announced that a federal grand jury has charged George Omelanczuk, a citizen of Argentina residing in Chicago, with distribution of 500 grams or more of cocaine in Sangamon county on June 12, 2006.

Omelanczuk was arrested on June 12, 2006, and charged by criminal complaint. The affidavit filed in support of the complaint alleges Omelanczuk delivered approximately one-half kilogram of cocaine to Springfield on the evening of June 12, 2006, for which he expected to be paid \$9,500.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Illinois State Police. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregory M. Gilmore.

If convicted, the offense carries a statutory penalty of five years to 40 years in prison and a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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